

## CLAIMS

1. Carbohydrate mixtures for dietetic food products and pharmaceuticals containing several carbohydrates, characterized in that they contain or consist of two different, substantially soluble carbohydrate components A and B, which remain undigested in the gastrointestinal tract and enter the large intestine without being resorbed, that the carbohydrate component A is composed of at least one monosaccharide or of at least one oligosaccharide (disaccharide to hexasaccharide) or of a mixture of two or of more of these saccharides, that the carbohydrate component B is composed of one polysaccharide (from heptasaccharide onwards) or of a mixture of two or of more polysaccharides, that the carbohydrate component A = 5 to 95 weight percent and the carbohydrate component B = 5 to 95 weight percent of the sum of the carbohydrate components A + B (= 100 weight percent), and that at least 80 weight percent of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate components A and B have a prebiotic effect.
2. Carbohydrate mixtures according to claim 1, characterized in that the carbohydrates / saccharides, which constitute the carbohydrate component A, have a different structure than the carbohydrates / saccharides, which constitute the carbohydrate component B.
3. Carbohydrate mixtures according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that at least 80 weight percent of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate components A and B promote lactic acid bacteria and/or are bifidogenic.
4. Carbohydrate mixtures according to one of claims 1 to 3,

characterized in that the weight percent of the carbohydrate component A is higher than the weight percent of the carbohydrate component B.

- 5 5. Carbohydrate mixtures according to claim 4,  
characterized in that the carbohydrate component A comprises 95  
to 60 weight percent and the carbohydrate component B comprises 5 to  
40 weight percent, with  $A + B = 100$  weight percent.
- 10 6. Carbohydrate mixtures according to claim 5,  
characterized in that the carbohydrate component A comprises  
about 90 weight percent and the carbohydrate component B comprises  
about 10 weight percent.
- 15 7. Carbohydrate mixtures according to *claim 1* ~~any one of the preceding claims~~,  
characterized in that the carbohydrates / saccharides of the  
carbohydrate components A and B do not have any glucose units linked at  
the  $\alpha$  1-4 and/or  $\alpha$  1-6 position.
- 20 8. Carbohydrate mixtures according to *claim 1* ~~any one of the preceding claims~~,  
characterized in that the carbohydrates / saccharides of the  
carbohydrate component B are composed of a maximum of up to 100  
monosaccharide units.
- 25 9. Carbohydrate mixtures according to *claim 1* ~~any one of the preceding claims~~,  
characterized in that at least 60 weight percent and in particular 80  
to 100 weight percent of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the  
carbohydrate component A belong to the galacto-oligosaccharide group  
and at least 60 weight percent and in particular 80 to 100 weight percent  
30 of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate component B  
belong to the fructo-polysaccharide group.

10. Carbohydrate mixtures according to <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~any one of the preceding claims~~,  
characterized in that, apart from the carbohydrates/saccharides of  
the carbohydrate components A and B, they contain an insoluble  
5 carbohydrate or a soluble and digestible carbohydrate or a mixture of one  
or more of these carbohydrates.
11. A dietetical or pharmaceutical composition containing a carbohydrate  
mixture according to <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~any one of the preceding claims~~.
12. The use of carbohydrate mixtures according to <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~any one of the preceding~~  
claims 1 to 10 for promoting the flora of the large intestine in humans, for  
10 promoting the growth of lactic acid bacteria, for use in infant formulas or  
for the production of infant formulas.
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